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August 9, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Art Unit 2123

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AUG 1 4 2002 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/802,956; Filed: March 12, 2001

or: System, Method, and Computer Program Product for the

Visualization and Interactive Processing and Analysis of Chemical

Data

Inventors: Agrafiotis *et al*.
Our Ref: 1503.0200006/PEG/TAD

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Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2. Form PTO-1449 accompanying two hundred and forty-eight (248) documents; and
- 3. A return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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Commissioner for Patents August 9, 2002 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox p.l.l.c.

Patrick E. Garrett

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 39,987

PEG/TAD:ahy Enclosures

::ODMA\MHODMA\SKGF_DC1;43416;1 SKGF Rev. 2/15/02 dcw



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CEL

In re application of:

Agrafiotis et al.

Appl. No. 09/802,956

Filed: March 12, 2001

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

For: System, Method, and Computer

> **Program Product for the** Visualization and Interactive **Processing and Analysis of**

Chemical Data

Confirmation No. 7862

Art Unit: 2123

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 1503.0200006

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Information Disclosure Statement

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Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not

be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants wish to direct the Examiner's attention to documents AP17, AR17, AO23, AN30, AO30, and AP33. Applicants have made an extensive attempt to locate a copy of these documents, yet were unsuccessful. Therefore, copies of these particular documents are not enclosed.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- □ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
 - □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information

 Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a

 foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more

*

than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- □ c. Attached is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ ____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- □ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
 - □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
 - □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 4. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

- 5. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
 - Document AK1 (EP 0 355 628 B1) appears to describe a method for chemical decontamination of nuclear plant structural parts. A copy of the English language abstract of document AK1 is enclosed as document AR36 on the attached PTO-1449.
- □ 6. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. _______, filed ______, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Patrick E. Garrett Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 39,987

Date: 8/9/02

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